

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): A sinter powder comprising:

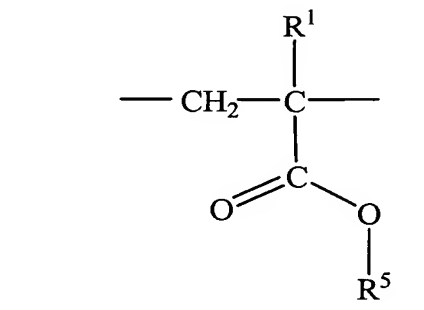
at least one polyamide in the form of a particle; and

at least one ~~member selected from the group consisting of a poly(N-methylmethacrylimide) (PMMI), a polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA), a PMMI-PMMA copolymer and mixtures thereof~~ in the form of a particle;

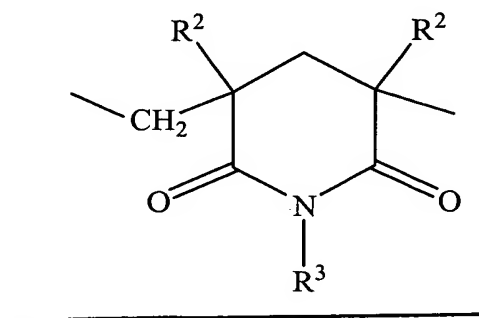
~~wherein the size of the particles of PMMI, PMMA and/or the PMMI-PMMA copolymers is within 20% of the median grain size d_{50} of the polyamide particles.~~

wherein the PMMI has at least the following constituents:

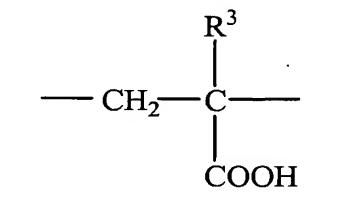
i) from 14 to 85 parts by weight of:



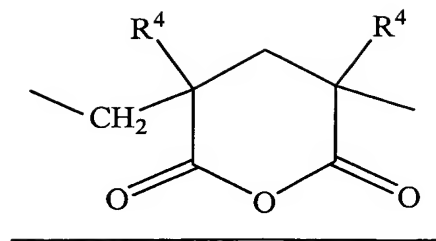
ii) from 10 to 75 parts by weight of:



iii) from 0 to 15 parts by weight of:



iv) from 1 to 20 parts by weight of:



wherein R¹ to R⁵ are identical or different aliphatic or alicyclic radicals having from 1 to 40 carbon atoms.

Claim 2 (Currently Amended): The sinter powder as claimed in claim 1, ~~comprising a~~
wherein the at least one polyamide which comprises at least 8 carbon atoms per carboxamide group.

Claim 3 (Currently Amended): The sinter powder as claimed in claim 1, ~~comprising~~
wherein the at least one polyamide comprises an unregulated polyamide.

Claim 4 (Currently Amended): The sinter powder as claimed in claim 1, ~~comprising~~
wherein the at least one polyamide comprises at least one nylon which is selected from the group consisting of nylon-6,12, nylon-11, nylon-12, a copolyamide; wherein said copolyamide is based on said nylons, and mixtures thereof.

Claim 5 (Currently Amended): The sinter powder as claimed in claim 1, comprising from 0.01 to 30 wt. % of said at least one ~~member selected from the group consisting of the poly(N-methylmethacrylimide) (PMMI), the polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA), the PMMI-PMMA copolymer and mixtures thereof~~ based on the entirety of the polymers present in the powder.

Claim 6 (Currently Amended): The sinter powder as claimed in claim 1, comprising from 0.5 to 15 wt. % of said at least one ~~member selected from the group consisting of the poly(N-methylmethacrylimide) (PMMI), the polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA), the PMMI-PMMA copolymer and mixtures thereof~~ based on the entirety of the polymers present in the powder.

Claim 7 (Currently Amended): The sinter powder as claimed in claim 1, comprising a mixture of particles of said at least one ~~member selected from the group consisting of the poly(N-methylmethacrylimide) (PMMI), the polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA), the PMMI-PMMA copolymer and mixtures thereof~~, with particles of polyamide.

Claim 8 (Currently Amended): The sinter powder as claimed in ~~any of~~ claim 1, comprising polyamide particles into which said at least one ~~member selected from the group consisting of the poly(N-methylmethacrylimide) (PMMI), the polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA), the PMMI-PMMA copolymer and mixtures thereof~~ has been incorporated.

Claim 9 (Previously Presented): The sinter powder as claimed in claim 1, which further comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of an auxiliary, a filler, a pigment and mixtures thereof.

Claim 10 (Currently Amended): The sinter powder as claimed in claim 9, wherein the auxiliary is present, and comprises a flow auxiliary.

Claim 11 (Currently Amended): The sinter powder as claimed in claim 9, wherein the filler is present, and comprises glass particles.

Claim 12 (Currently Amended): The sinter powder as claimed in claim 9, wherein the filler is present, and comprises aluminum particles.

Claim 13 (Currently Amended): A process for preparing the sinter powder as claimed in claim 1, comprising:

mixing at least one polyamide with said at least one ~~member selected from the group consisting of the poly(N-methylmethacrylimide) (PMMI), the polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA), the PMMI-PMMA copolymer and mixtures thereof.~~

Claim 14 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in claim 13, comprising mixing a polyamide powder obtained by reprecipitation or milling, in suspension or in solution in an organic solvent, or in bulk, with said at least one ~~member selected from the group consisting of the poly(N-methylmethacrylimide) (PMMI), the polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA), the PMMI-PMMA copolymer and mixtures thereof.~~

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): The process as claimed in claim 13, comprising compounding said at least one ~~member selected from the group consisting of the poly(N-methylmethacrylimide) (PMMI), the polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA), the PMMI-PMMA copolymer and mixtures thereof~~ into a melt of polyamide, to obtain a mixture; and milling said mixture to give a laser sinter powder.

Claim 16 (Original): A process for producing moldings, which comprises:
selectively laser sintering the sinter powder as claimed in claim 1.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): A molding produced by laser sintering, which comprises:

at least one ~~member selected from the group consisting of the poly(N-methylmethacrylimide) (PMMI), the polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA), the PMMI-PMMA copolymer and mixtures thereof,~~ and at least one polyamide.

Claim 18 (Currently Amended): The molding as claimed in claim 17, ~~comprising~~ wherein the at least one polyamide which has at least 8 carbon atoms per carboxamide group.

Claim 19 (Currently Amended): The molding as claimed in claim 17, ~~comprising~~ wherein the at least one polyamide comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of nylon-6,12, nylon-11, nylon-12 and mixtures thereof.

Claim 20 (Currently Amended): The molding as claimed in claim 18, ~~comprising~~ wherein the at least one polyamide comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of nylon-6,12, nylon-11, nylon-12 and mixtures thereof.

Claim 21 (Currently Amended): The molding as claimed in claim 17, comprising from 0.01 to 30 wt. % of said at least one ~~member selected from the group consisting of the poly(N-methylmethacrylimide) (PMMI), the polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA), the PMMI-PMMA copolymer and mixtures thereof,~~ based on the entirety of the polymers present in the powder.

Claim 22 (Currently Amended): The molding as claimed in claim 17, comprising from 0.5 to 15 wt. % of said at least one ~~member selected from the group consisting of the~~

~~poly(N-methylmethacrylimide) (PMMI), the polymethyl methacrylate (PMMA), the PMMI-PMMA copolymer and mixtures thereof,~~ based on the entirety of the polymers present in the powder.

Claim 23 (Previously Presented): The molding as claimed in claim 17, which further comprises at least one member selected from the group consisting of a filler, a pigment and mixtures thereof.

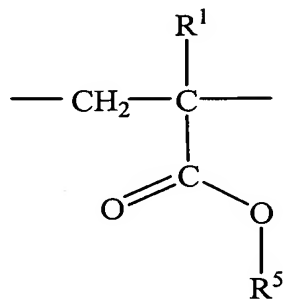
Claim 24 (Previously Presented): The molding as claimed in claim 23, comprising glass particles.

Claim 25 (Previously Presented): The molding as claimed in claim 23, comprising aluminum particles.

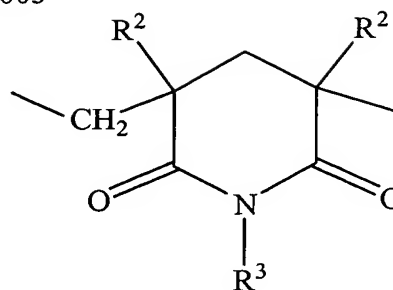
Claim 26 (Canceled).

Claim 27 (New): The sinter powder as claimed in claim 1, wherein the constituents of the at least one PMMI are present in the following amounts:

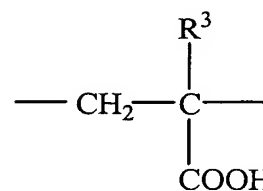
i) from 30 to 70 parts by weight of:



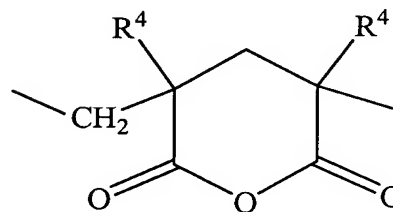
ii) from 20 to 40 parts by weight of:



iii) from 0 to 15 parts by weight of:



iv) from 2 to 12 parts by weight of:



wherein R¹ to R⁵ are -CH₃.

DISCUSSION OF THE AMENDMENT

Claims 1 and 17 have been amended by limiting the member to the PMMI described in the specification at page 7, lines 1 to 28. Claim 1 has been further amended by deleting the particle size limitation. The remaining amendments have been made to be consistent with this amendment, and to recite, where appropriate, that a particular component is present. Claim 26 has been canceled as now redundant. Finally, new Claim 27 has been added, directed to the preferred amounts of the constituents and preferred R¹-R⁵ groups for the recited PMMI, as supported in the specification at page 7, lines 1-28.

No new matter is believed to have been added by the above amendment. Claims 1-25 and 27 are now pending in the application.

In accordance with the Interview Summary for the below-discussed interview, the Examiner indicated that this amendment would be entered.